

The recent actions and non-actions by the FCC under its current administration have undermined the very reason for its existence. the blatant slant toward corporate control of every media outlet, with direct ties to the White House, are nothing less than Orwellian in nature. The public watchdog has been turned into an attack dog and our nation is losing its respect in the world.

A specific example of this blatant disregard for the public interest is Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Thank you.